

**From:** Daniel Brown  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/23/02 8:40am  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

To Whom It May Concern,

I have been a software engineer for 6 years. I have been an avid computer user for about 20 years. I have used Microsoft's MS-DOS and Windows operating systems extensively during that time. And over that period of time, Microsoft has done many things that I consider unethical, whether they were all illegal or not.

Microsoft needs to be restrained since its anti-competitive practices have hampered the progress of computer technology. This is clear when looking at the fact that Microsoft operating systems have always lagged behind other operating systems in reliability, usability, and technical capability - and yet Microsoft operating systems have always dominated the business and consumer markets.

The primary specific acts which I find deplorable are Microsoft's attempts to undermine competing technologies such as Java by duping developers into creating Windows-specific Java applications (through embrace-and-extend tactics), the use of monopoly power to manipulate OEMs, and propaganda letter campaigns in which they attempt to put words in the mouths of ordinary citizens in order to influence the outcome of this very antitrust suit.

The most recent formulation of the Microsoft settlement that I have seen does not restrain Microsoft in any substantial way. This will likely be true of any settlement that Microsoft agrees to. Microsoft is not interested in conforming with the law or with ethical standards or with furthering the common good. They exist only to exist.

In addition, I agree with the main points of the open letter to the DOJ on this matter located at:

<http://www.kegel.com/remedy/letter.html>

and will be adding my name in support of it.

Sincerely,

Daniel W. Brown

Software Engineer

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